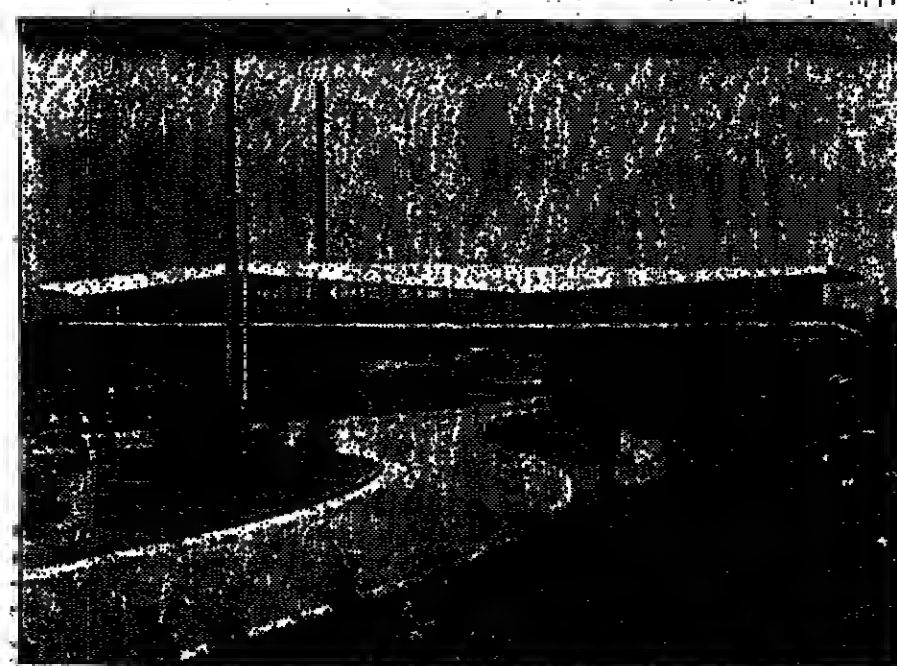


Pubs and restaurants in Germany

Whatever they may be, your expectations will be exceeded. Even the most imaginative mind finds it difficult to picture what the pubs, restaurants, monastery tap-rooms and wine taverns are like in this country. Cosy-Gemütlich, fascinating, always different. We are thinking of the many recommended establishments with their own and local specialities as well as international cuisine.

They are contemporary or even very modern - like those on the motorways. Or they are traditional or even historic, well-preserved from the middle ages or hidden below thatched roofs - like those in the Altes Land near Hamburg. They are hidden away in narrow lanes - like many students' pubs in Heidelberg, historic hotels behind timber-framed walls - like in the Black Forest resort of Herrenalb -

between vineyards and wine along the German Wine Road. There are also the old country of Northern Germany and the unique beer gardens of Upper Bavaria. As we said before: for the most imaginative mind. Perhaps you should visit Germany solely to visit its pubs and restaurants



Outdoor eating in the Altes Land, near Hamburg

Dammer Berge, a popular restaurant, between Bremen and Osnabrück

Beethovenstrasse 69, D-5000 Köln

The German Tribune

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Moscow and Bonn: much depends on Brandt

French Soviet criticism of Chancellor Schmidt underlines how difficult it is for the Federal Republic of Germany to remain unaffected by the deterioration of relations between the Soviet Union and the United States. Brandt did succeed, to some extent, in the invasion of Afghanistan, even though it joined in the boycott of the Olympic Games in Moscow. There were no negative effects on trade between the two countries. On the contrary - it continued to flourish. As for future relations between the two, much will depend on whether the negotiations which both Schmidt and Brezhnev have called for are held and what results. Willy Brandt will be going to Moscow in a month and will have the difficult task of finding out how much room for manoeuvre the Soviets have. It is ironic that Brandt, who was forced to resign as Chancellor because of his criticism of the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia, is now going to Moscow.

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Dancing away all those cares and woes

an East Bloc spy, should now enjoy the special trust and should be expected to reactivate the détente policies of the sixties. Brezhnev's plans to come to Bonn this summer will depend on the success of Brandt's mission. What can Brandt be realistically expected to do? Everything hinges on the issue of US nuclear missiles in Europe but is now facing II missiles and Cruise missiles with atomic warheads. NATO committed itself to installing these missiles in Europe but is now facing second thoughts after realising that the weapons would be major targets of European nuclear missiles. Schmidt himself wrote in one of his

books that it is military nonsense to create hundreds of new targets for Soviet missiles in a country as densely populated as West Germany.

The installation of these missiles is worrying for the Germans and other Europeans and of course for the Soviet, who would only have four to five minutes warning of a nuclear strike.

Could NATO abandon its plans to install these weapons without showing weakness and without tipping the balance of nuclear power further in the Soviets' favour?

As things stand, the Americans will probably take three rather than two years to complete the installation of the missiles, which gives a breathing space until 1984.

Brezhnev called for a moratorium in his speech to the Soviet Communist Party. This three-year delay would de facto constitute such a moratorium.

Schmidt was hesitant about accepting the moratorium proposal after Foreign Minister Genscher had warned him that the modernisation plans would not be renewed - the original decision had only come about after tough discussions.

Discussions could take place between now and 1984, with a view to reducing the number of missiles.

If the Soviets are genuinely interested in détente they will have an opportunity during Brandt's visit to put their proposals on the table. The West does not even know exactly how many SS missile systems the Soviet Union has installed or intends to install.

Unless Moscow can propose possible paths towards a reasonable solution - and this cannot of course mean unilateral



French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson and Chancellor Schmidt getting together in Bonn. (Photo: dpa)

Paris clear on what West must do

renunciation of the new missiles by the West - the missiles will be installed.

As Brandt enjoys great prestige in Moscow, his visit is a real chance to make progress.

Brezhnev has been the main architect of Soviet policy towards the West in the past decade. Clearly it will be far better to talk to him than to his successor. But the Soviets will also have to make concessions.

If the talks break down, it is already foreseeable that the East-West climate, already bleak, will deteriorate further.

It is illusory to believe that West Germany could keep out of the political confrontation between Moscow and Washington.

On the contrary, it would probably be the main victim of any such confrontation.

Peter Seidlitz
(Der Tagesspiegel, 2 June 1981)



Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dieter Genscher (right) talks with Soviet representatives in the Federal Republic of Germany this month. Left is Boris Ponomarev, a member of the central committee of the Soviet Communist Party. Ponomarev is the Soviet ambassador to Bonn, Vladimir Semynov. Bear is a Soviet embassy official. (Photo: dpa)

Negotiations with the Soviet Union on nuclear arms are only possible if the West shows its own determination to modernise its own nuclear arsenal, says the new French Foreign Minister, M. Cheysson.

They are words which will be welcomed in Bonn and Washington. It is a long time since such a clear commitment to maintaining the balance of nuclear power has been issued from Paris.

However, in other areas, the first public statements by M. Cheysson have caused confusion and consternation.

His first official foreign visit was to Berlin. Then he went to the United States. Both trips gave him the chance to formulate his position.

The prime objective of the French foreign policy under socialist leadership seems to be to inform its Western partners and to calm possible fears.

Although he underlined France's close ties with NATO and said that he regarded Soviet medium-range nuclear missiles as a threat, he intends to orientate French foreign policy towards the Third World and seems prepared to run the risk of a conflict of interests with the United States.

More openly than in the past France is today showing its sympathies with Israel. Mitterrand may be the first French president to visit Israel. Yet at the same time France favours the creation of a Palestinian state.

Cheysson said that in all areas of foreign policy he will honour the undertakings given by his predecessor. Re-orientations will only become apparent gradually.

Cheysson's clearest statement was on the danger of neutralism. He said he was shocked at the strength neutralism had gained in some major countries.

Hans Bartsch
(Kölnischer Nachrichten, 2 June 1981)

WORLD AFFAIRS

Reconciling transatlantic outlooks essential to Nato unity

Huge efforts will be needed to prevent Nato breaking up. The organization has been put under considerable strain because of marked differences between American and European public opinion.

These differences centre on Soviet intentions; socio-political and economic developments within Russia; and the need for increased military spending.

These were some of the points to emerge at a *Gesprächskreis* in Bergedorf, a Hamburg suburb, and attended by European and American journalists, academics and politicians.

The conference was held at the installation of wealthy industrialist and public benefactor Kurt Körber.

Even now, five months after Ronald Reagan's election victory, European discussion partners were still asking what Reagan's victory means for the USA's western allies.

They are surprised by the Americans' new-found self-confidence and innovative strength. They have doubts about how long it will last and are dumbfounded by the rolling back of the welfare network in the United States.

Most of the European participants — who included professors Karl Schiller, Ralf Dahrendorf, Karl Kaiser and Armin Gutowski — were surprised to discover how important the Western part of the United States has become.

This area west of the Mississippi, which is known as Reagan country, wholeheartedly supports the President's policies.

Given the controversial statements during the recent Bundestag defence debate, Dahrendorf's soothing assertion that both sides were committed to Nato and to defending the open, free systems in America and Europe sounded almost too optimistic.

Even more questionable was his assertion that Europe unequivocally accepted the vital role the United States played in preserving the freedom of the West.

The doubts at Bergedorf were audible. Participants asked whether the centrifugal tendencies could be stopped and large numbers of European young people could be persuaded that the United States were the guarantors of freedom and of a policy of preventing Soviet expansionism.

Michael Nowak, an American social philosopher and former US delegate to the Geneva Human Rights Conference, said the West had failed to find an effective and comprehensible language for its economic and social system, which is based on the free play of market forces.

He said that young people and the Third World today regard socialism as the only hope of salvation, whereas the free market economy represented all that was bad.

Max Beloff, of Oxford University, put it even more drastically. He said that Europe had only exported two things to the Third World: socialism and syphilis. But no one had found a penicillin for the former, he added.



Following, Chancellor Schmidt's visit to Washington, many American commentators have said that America's foreign policy strategy is still being worked out and that the Nato allies — and especially West Germany — can influence it.

Helmut Sonnenfeldt, once Henry Kissinger's right hand man and now one of Reagan's advisers, expressed doubts about this view.

He said the United States wanted as wide a consensus as possible in favour of its policies.

The administration's aim of re-establishing military parity with the Soviet Union and thus of pursuing a more effective policy of deterrence was irrevocable.

America had the will and the determination to realise this aim — if necessary even without the support of its allies.

Speaking of the Nato modernisation decision, Sonnenfeldt said that there was a certain danger that the United States could come to the conclusion that a European First strategy is too expensive. This could lead to withdrawal from Europe and a crisis within Nato.

The question "is our defence viable?" was the basis of the modernisation decision and of negotiations with the Soviet Union.

Europe would have to ask itself this question in all honesty and this could mean greater contribution to the alliance's defence costs. Total honesty would also bring home to the Europeans that thanks to their Maginot mentality they were chasing illusions if they believed that the "negotiation" aspect of the modernisation decision should be given priority.

Despite this very clear indication of American impatience, Stanley Hoffmann, of Harvard, said that Europe and

Installing nuclear missiles in submarines and ships is gaining new ground as a solution to the dilemma of whether to accept the military necessity of the missiles or give in to the increasing public fears that they generate.

Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher has come out in categorical opposition to sea-launched ballistic missiles.

At the FDP party conference in Cologne he said that only willingness to take the risk of having missiles on land would guarantee the United States' nuclear umbrella.

Basing these missiles at sea would be far more expensive if modernisation plans are acted on. It would also mean that "we would be obliged to make German submarines available and that we would thereby be involved in an additional atomic risk" Genscher told his doubting party colleagues.

Advocates of sea-launched ballistic missiles can, however, cite Helmut Schmidt himself. This subject was discussed at the beginning of the sixties. When this subject of how Nato should react to the Soviet Union's increasing superiority in medium-range nuclear missiles, Schmidt, then SPD defence expert, spoke in favour of sea-based missiles.

He said that land-based missiles belonged in the Arctic or in the desert but "certainly not in densely populated areas." He said they were targets for the enemy's nuclear attacks. "Everything which draws fire is undesirable in densely populated or small countries" he wrote.

The main military argument against sea-launched ballistic missiles fired from submarines or ships is that they are less accurate and more difficult to handle.

One of the main aims of the modernisation decision, however, was to introduce pinpoint-accuracy missiles able to knock out military centres and depots in the Soviet Union. This "would close a gap which now exists in Nato's chain of deterrence."

Nato submarines at the moment can-

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Missiles at sea as an alternative

not guarantee this high level of strike accuracy. Their inaccuracy means that their targets are very wide and their function would be to destroy major centres of population in retaliation to a possible Soviet nuclear attack on West Europe.

Their credibility in this respect is rated low.

An argument used against missile-launching ships is that they are easier to detect and therefore more vulnerable than land-based missiles.

However, this argument is disputed. Submarines are undoubtedly more difficult to locate and attack. And ships can change their positions more easily even than moveable land-based missile launching pads.

Gradual stepping-up of weapon deployment plays a key part in the West's defence concept. The decision about what stage of nuclear interchange has been reached — whether in the Euro-strategic or the intercontinental sphere — is absolutely critical if a world-wide inferno is to be avoided.

This distinction becomes blurred when sea-launched ballistic missiles are involved. This is a further argument against using sea-launched missiles.

At the same time opponents of sea-launched missiles argue that the loss of a few ships or submarines in a nuclear exchange is easier to cope with and this could thus reduce the USA's willingness to make use of the ultimate deterrent. The ghost of "de-coupling" which Genscher invoked at Cologne would therefore once more be looming.

in the "land or sea" discussion, the

HOME AFFAIRS

Parties grapple with problem of where to save money

America could come closer together, *ostpolitik*.

The first indications are that America's *ostpolitik* aims to stop the Soviet power of the Soviet Union by closing external barriers.

Europe, on the other hand, tends to cooperate with rather than challenge the Soviet Union.

Europe believed that the Soviet Union's boots over the Chancellor's desk to cut back on State social security have no cause for worry.

The Reagan administration, on the other hand, regarded the Soviet Union as an insurmountable obstacle to peace.

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It would be an oversimplification to say that the dividing line runs only between the two coalition parties.

The description of the situation given by CSU spokesman Friedrich Zimmermann hit upon a sore point inasmuch as it drew attention to the rigidity of the government in its dealings with the various groups.

But the identity crisis affects the Social Democrats more than it does their smaller coalition partner.

Schmidt finds himself pushed more and more into the role of a chief coordinator who is so busy reconciling opposing interests that he has hardly any time left for the business of governing.

But what was most remarkable about this debate was that the Bundestag was no longer divided into two blocks but into three political factions, each vying with the other. This should actually be taken for granted in any Parliament. Yet it is a novelty in the Bundestag.

Both so far as the social affairs budget and the defence budget are concerned, the Free Democrats have distanced themselves from those areas of responsibility that are not under their jurisdiction.

No matter how sterile the debate over wide stretches, there were undertones indicating an autumnal mood in Bonn. This was heightened by the many moves which Hans-Dietrich Genscher has made over the past few months.

Strictly speaking, the FDP chairman

Genscher firm on coalition commitment

The Free Democrats have made it clear that it intends to continue the coalition and work along the lines laid down after the election last October. Hans-Dietrich Genscher made this clear in an address to the party congress.

Peace research scientist Carl von Weizsäcker understands the FDP's decision. He said the issue of missiles but at the same time he believes that basing the new range missiles at sea is the only way out of the NATO modernisation dilemma.

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Opposition works on getting the team ship-shape

Government crises are usually the moment of opportunity for the opposition.

Not so in Bonn. The coalition government is in disarray and yet there is no political alternative in sight that anybody could long for.

There are good reasons for this: no sooner was Franz Josef Strauss defeated in the election last October than Helmut Kohl took the opposition helm, bringing the CDU/CSU ship back on its old course.

Now the ship is becalmed in the lee of the Bonn turbulence while the opposition leader stands poised as the Chancellor's presumptive.

But this is about all. Kohl is taking no action other than fixedly staring at FDP leader Hans-Dietrich Genscher as the lever with which to unseat the coalition.

The good resolutions made after the election defeat seem to be forgotten along with his declared intention to strengthen the liberal wing of his own party.

The intention to plough forgotten political fields has been dropped as has the CDU plan to make the party attractive for a coalition partner through its policy ranging from social affairs to *Ostpolitik*.

What the opposition is practising is an exercise in restraint as a contrast programme to the creaking within the coalition — and that is too little by far.

After all, how is a party that, in its own ranks, sweeps all those issues under

has done nothing that the SPD could interpret as a violation of the coalition agreement.

He advocates that a CDU Senate be tolerated in Berlin because the SPD can no longer govern in the city. He opposes FDP participation in the Rhineland-Palatinate government despite his usual argument that such mixed coalitions in the *Länder* improve the Bundesrat position for the present Bonn coalition.

Genscher can hardly be blamed for doing exactly that for which his party elected him chairman: increasing the party's influence and making it more independent of the two big parties.

But that is only half the truth. Genscher is driving the SPD to the point where he can either present it to the electorate as a party that bends to his wishes or to the point where it has no choice but to throw in the towel.

The dispute between Zimmermann and Economic Affairs Minister Count Lambdoff (FDP) could also be taken as substantiating the signs that point to an uncertain future. These signs seem to indicate that the FDP is distancing itself from the SPD without coming closer to the CDU.

The determination with which Genscher keeps promoting a minority Senate in Berlin gives rise to speculation that he wants to create precedent cases as a reinsurance for a possible breakup of the Bonn coalition.

But since this is not possible, the SPD must make that all-out effort Chancellor Schmidt spoke of.

Klaus Dreher
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 4 Juni 1981)

This and Herbert Wehner's reference to 1960 should have made it clear to the CDU/CSU that the FDP would not be available as a partner should the opposition have to form a government — at least not immediately.

The unimaginativeness with which the CDU/CSU simply keeps waiting for a breakdown of the coalition to bring about a change of parliamentary roles makes this very change even more difficult.

The conservatives know as well as the SPD and FDP that, should Schmidt be forced to resign, no party could provide a politician with similar abilities.

Should Schmidt topple, it would not be because of his lack of capability because he would be faced with a situation in which he might not wish to govern.

The SPD has to cope with an experience it is evidently unable to digest: after the war it started as the reform party that rallied the masses and was pushed into the role of a party that must defend privilege it frequently created against its own will.

It comes close to defeat for the SPD, which wanted social security, to now have to ponder the abuse of the very social security net it created.

There can be no doubt that the SPD would be greatly relieved if it could withdraw into opposition following a surgically clean operation.

In the opposition it could come to grips with itself and face the 1984 election as a cleansed party that would stand a good chance of success.

But since this is not possible, the SPD must make that all-out effort Chancellor Schmidt spoke of.

Klaus Dreher
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 4 Juni 1981)

implement even its oldest programme points.

Take the Boppard Paper which has not served its image-building purpose because it is virtually unknown to the public.

Equally unknown are the solutions for the present crisis as proposed by the CDU because instead of providing programmatic answers to open questions the party glosses over them with a list of clichés.

Thus, for instance, the term used in connection with state indebtedness is "striking a balance", for defence modernisation the answer is "loyalty to the Alliance" and détente is handled with the term "realism".

So far as the unrest among the young is concerned, all that the CDU has to offer are such empty formulas as "a ban on masking for demonstrators" — all of which is to cover up for a lack of ideas.

Helmut Kohl might point to the fact that his party has started gaining ground in the *Länder*. But the question is whether this is due to CDU performance or simply to the weakness of the SPD.

In any event, Bonn is not Berlin and Helmut Schmidt is not Dietrich Stöbbe.

The idea that the CDU only has to bide its time until the change of power takes place of its own accord can only be termed illusory.

The CDU strategy paper says that "a party cannot be measured by what it says but what it does" and this still applies.

Anybody who, like Helmut Kohl, disregards this maxim to such an extent that he has to be reminded of it, daily has failed almost before he started.

Bernd Stadelmann
(Süddeutsche Nachrichten, 29 May 1981)

Japan in 1980

THE LAW

Some judges are 'loafers'
accuses lawyer

There is many a loafer hiding behind judges robes, according to Konrad Redeker, vice-president of the Bar Association.

He made his accusation at the 41st German Bar Association Congress in Mainz.

Another speaker, Frankfurt lawyer Erich Schmidt-Leichner, said that "a great many judges don't belong on the bench and should be replaced."

Many had expected the congress to be a lame affair. It wasn't.

It was an occasion for the pent-up dissatisfaction with judiciary machinery to erupt.

The main topic was supposed to have been criminal defence and its problems.

But that found much less response than general complaints about the administration of justice.

The main objection from lawyers, and their clients, is that an overburdened judiciary grinds so slowly in some areas that it almost amounts to a refusal to hand out justice.

Judges as well as lawyers are complaining. Judges have been worried for a long time about civil cases lasting years; about bottle necks in family affairs courts; about the mountains of trivia on file; and about huge criminal trials held under pressure of time.

Not enough new judges are being appointed by the justice ministers to cope with the build up.

Since a shortage of money prevent the appointment of a sufficient number of court personnel, hopes now rest with new ideas that would streamline procedures and shorten the long road from one court of appeal to another.

Naturally, the main concern must always be to provide the citizen with the legal protection to which he is entitled. But even so, lawyers are worried that streamlining the machinery of justice would make their cake even smaller.

Much of the conversation on the periphery of the congress revolved around the economic position of West Germany's 37,000 lawyers, many of whom already see the spectre of "proletarianism."

Under the sceptical scrutiny of judges who fear "abuse", Germany's lawyers have begun to put the ball back in the judges' court.

The question now heard is "Has our judiciary system exhausted all possibilities of improving the efficiency of the judges' work?" as Redeker put it.

He later resorted to stronger terms which earned him the biggest applause of the meeting when he claimed that there is many a loafer hiding behind the judge's robes.

It was obvious from the very beginning that judges, who are usually treated with kid gloves, would not come out unscathed this time.

It was Hans-Jürgen Rabe, the president of the Bar Association, who broke the taboo when he demanded "more mobility of judges."

But it would take an amendment of the Constitution to enable the judiciary to dispatch judges who find themselves with not enough work to overburdened



departments as if they were firemen sent to man undermanned stations.

As former Bonn Justice Minister Hans-Jochen Vogel pointed out, this could only be done on a voluntary basis.

The way Vogel and other politicians concerned with the system of justice see it, the reasons for the flood of court cases go much deeper than one could deduce from the petty bickering between lawyers and judges.

Herr Vogel spoke of "boundless demands by the citizen, his wanting justice at any cost" — a desire which is now being countered with appeals for moderation.

There is also "a lack of willingness to compromise." But where disputes between the state and the citizen are concerned, this attitude is typical of both sides.

As the presiding justice of the Federal

In the past six months alone, squatters have taken over more than 500 buildings in 50 German municipalities.

Half of the buildings are still occupied.

The phenomenon of squatting has had varied effects: in Berlin the issue has helped the "alternative" political grouping into the legislature.

Several cities have offered leases to tenants.

More than 1,000 cases involving squatting are being handled by the courts.

The wave of squatting has now also spread to smaller centres and rural areas.

A survey by the *Deutsche Presseagentur (dpa)* involving authorities and citizens' initiatives at home and abroad shows that only Holland, with 25,000 illegally occupied houses, has to cope with a situation similar to that in the Federal Republic of Germany.

According to the survey, there are several tens of thousands of apartments being kept untenanted by the owner for one reason or another.

Berlin holds the record with 167 buildings occupied by squatters.

Some 40 or so buildings have meanwhile been cleared either voluntarily or by the police.

The authorities of North Rhine-Westphalia speak of about 80 occupied buildings, though the police there have been more reluctant than elsewhere to take action.

In Bremen, too, only one of the seven occupied buildings was cleared by the police.

There are no longer any known squatters in Hamburg, Rhineland-Palatinate and Bavaria.

The Saarland is the only state where no building has as yet been taken over by squatters.

In Hesse, the police have cleared 26 of the 35 buildings that have been occupied since the beginning of the year.

In Baden-Württemberg, 20 of the 25 buildings were cleared, and in Lower Sax-

court, Gerd Pfeiffer, put it, government authorities which are unwilling to arrive at an out-of-court settlement provide a poor example for the public.

Karlsruhe lawyer Rudolf Gerhardt put the tricky question of legal protection into a nutshell when he said: "First the citizen was encouraged to resort to the courts by legislation giving him legal aid free of charge and now we complain about his doing exactly that."

Justice Pfeiffer came up with a sound piece of advice when he told legislators that, when passing new laws, they must think of the flood of new cases the courts will have to cope with.

The Bar Association now has an opportunity to raise its reservations about extended legal cost assistance to include criminal defence as well, as announced by Bonn Justice Minister Jürgen Schmude at the congress.

Be it limitation of appeals or special court procedures or an increase of court fees or streamlining of the judiciary machinery — whatever measures are taken to control the flood of court cases — the lawyers are bound to insist on having a greater say.

Many a lawyer who, he it in his office or in the courtroom, rivets all his attention on the individual case has experienced the Mainz congress as an eye opener as to how much is at stake in trying to save our administration of justice from the disaster that threatens it.

Norbert Leppert

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 1 Juni 1981)

Spread of the
squatting
phenomenon

only only one of the 18 occupied houses still remains in the hands of squatters. For Schleswig-Holstein the number is three.

A magazine recently claimed that most citizens sympathise with the squatters. This is due to the widespread view that housing shortages are caused by speculators out for profit.

According to the survey, many of the tens of thousands of untenanted buildings in this country are dilapidated.

In North Rhine-Westphalia there are 2,000 buildings with a total of 4,500 apartments untenanted, according to the state government.

The figure for Hamburg is said to be 100 buildings with 900 apartments.

In Berlin, there is talk of 10,000 apartments in 1,000 untenanted buildings.

The figure for Frankfurt is 50 buildings.

No figures are obtainable for many areas.

Of the 1,000 court cases in connection with squatting, about 350 involve charges of disturbing the peace, damage to property and theft of water and electricity; 215 cases have been thrown out and only once was a criminal sentence passed.

Bavarian courts are dealing with 160 cases of which 141 are connected with mass arrests in Nuremberg.

In Baden-Württemberg there are 321 pending cases, mostly in Freiburg.

In Lower Saxony, the courts are dealing with 78 cases and Hesse has had to deal with 182 cases in the past 12 months.

Ku Klux Klan
branch
in Germany

The Ku Klux Klan is operating in the Federal Republic of Germany in cooperation with German Nazis according to the weekly news magazine *Stern*.

The magazine reports attacks on US soldiers and a growing membership in the organisation.

The German section of the Klan said to have more than 1,000 members.

This has been confirmed by the Federal Criminal Investigation Bureau and the Rhineland-Palatinate Ministry.

Activities are said to centre on Rhineland-Palatinate and Hesse.

Rhineland-Palatinate's Interior Ministry said that Germany's hands are tied because the Klan's activities were restricted to US military bases.

An 18-year-old German neo-Nazi with a criminal record is said to act as liaison man.

The German Klan members are said to maintain links with the *Wehrsportgruppe Hoffmann* (a paramilitary organisation) and the right wing *Hitlerjugend*.

It is said that the police in Cologne are working on the motions of finding work for the bomb attack at last year's *toberfest* in Munich.

(Nordwest-Zeitung, 26 May 1981)

LABOUR

State foots bill for 'early
retirement' scheme

Trick 59 is costing unemployment contributors at least DM1m a year, according to the weekly news magazine *Stern*.

It means that companies can pay off their workers at a minimal cost.

Although pensions in the Federal Republic of Germany are payable at 65, a worker can be paid earlier if a worker has at least 35 years of work.

What companies can do (and are doing) is this: workers aged between 55 and 60 can be dismissed only for "serious reasons" according to trade union contracts, but they can be given "disincentives."

The workers, having turned 59, receive a lump sum payment, and, after a short period, is entitled to unemployment benefit.

The company pays the worker the difference between the benefit and his salary until old-age pension is payable.

It is a perfect system: the workers get their pension early, the company gets rid of its pensioner, and the employment office goes to the expense of premature retirement.

One example: of eight hundred older BMW workers, 300 have taken advantage of the possibility of premature retirement.

The Works Council chairman stresses, however, that: "The company does not want to slim down its workforce at the expense of the employment insurance schemes." And he adds: "We were one

of the last to introduce this scheme, in December 1980."

This means that others have been taking part much longer in this game. Volkswagen of Wolfsburg are up to the same trick. Exact figures were not available.

Works councillors do not like talking about trick 59. They have special reasons for this: they are involved in a conflict of loyalties.

If they agree to the scheme, they are allowing the company to undermine hard-won wage concessions; on the other hand if older workers accept the scheme this can often avoid social hardships for younger workers who might otherwise risk being unemployed.

A classic example: the Olympia typewriter factory in Wilhelmshaven,

which has been struggling for years. It has reduced the average age of staff considerably by use of this scheme. Perhaps this has helped the company but it is certain that the employment insurance scheme foots the bill.

The labour market boosting effect is nil, unless extra workers who in turn pay contributions are taken on.

These contracts are a temptation for many employees. And they allow companies to reduce the average age of staff or reduce their payroll "painlessly."

The companies therefore have no interest in any change in the system. The employment offices do, but are virtually powerless. This leaves the Bundesrat, which will have to find a method of preventing the abuse.

Kurt Bitt

(Ole Zeit, 29 May 1981)

According to Berlin educationists Heinrich and Elke von der Haar, who have produced the most thorough study of the subjects to date, there are about 300,000 children working in this country, about 200,000 legally.

The factory inspectorate discover between 1,000 and 1,500 cases of illegal child labour a year. And the number of undetected cases is probably very high.

The problem at travelling fairs is particularly acute. On one random test, it was found that 9 stands out of 83 were employing children, many of whom skipped school to work there.

Krankenhagen said there is an increase in child labour among foreigners. Children can be found clearing away shopping trolleys in supermarkets, giving oil changes at garages or cleaning dishes in restaurants.

In a metal factory children were found handling insulating material.

A Baden-Württemberg cabinet maker had a 14-year-old boy working illegally for him for a year — until he cut a finger off in a machine.

In Frankfurt, a 14-year-old boy worked in a laundrette — until he lost a leg in an accident.

A 12-year-old Augsburg boy was getting up at four in the morning to work in a bakery until his teachers complained that he was always falling asleep.

Krankenhagen stresses: "Child labour is not necessarily bad." After all, children have to work at school.

The Dortmund scientists want to get people thinking about the whole subject and to realise what the prime concern is: to prevent children being overtaxed and being distracted from their work."

Horst Zimmernann

(Bremser Nachrichten, 26 May 1981)

Unemployment benefits

Benefiting the books (Figures in DMbn)

Paid in

Paid out

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1976

1977

1978

1979

1980

1981

1982

1983

1984

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ENERGY

Opec's indecision lets consumers off again

There is nothing new about an occasional sign of weakness in Opec, the world's most powerful cartel. But never before has a routine meeting of the 13 oil ministers ended with such a fiasco as the 60th Opec conference in Geneva late last month.

None of the aims (such as the streamlining of the widely varying oil prices, the freezing of prices — which even Opec considers too high — and agreements on reducing excess production) were achieved.

In fact, the oil ministers were even unable to work out a compromise formula to gloss over the differences.

Thus the oil-consuming countries were once more saved by the skin of their teeth.

The chairman of the conference, Indonesia's oil minister Subruto, said after the meeting that he planned his hopes on the controversial long term strategy as a means of overcoming the differences and restoring Opec's clout.

He left it to the departing secretary-general, René Ortiz, to read the pitiful closing communiqué.

This was unable to point to a binding decision to reduce oil production. Instead Ortiz could only present a loose general agreement to reduce the output by 19 per cent, starting from 1 July. But even this excludes Iran and Iraq. They are to be given an opportunity to bring their production back to the levels of before the war.

This makes the decision — which is in any event non-binding — a mere threatening gesture.

With its daily output of 25.5m bbls, Opec (according to its own sources) now produces an excess of 2m to 3m bbls, equalling about 10 per cent.

If all members of the cartel were to reduce their output by this figure the market would conceivably be balanced — at least so far as Opec is concerned.

But the cartel's total annual output of about 12.5bn tons accounts for only 40

per cent of global oil production (following the discovery of the North Sea oil fields and the deposits in Alaska and Mexico).

Even within Opec itself there is a great imbalance of supply and demand.

Saudi Arabia, which accounts for 40 per cent of Opec's output, would not dream of cutting back, as clearly announced by oil minister Yamani. Iran and Iraq could even under today's adverse conditions raise their production by 1.4m bbls

day — the quantity by which the others want to cut back.

By upping their output by these 1.4m bbls, the two warring nations would not even double their today's production and would still produce only one-third of the output before the Islamic Revolution and the Iran-Iraq war.

The official prices have remained unchanged and are to stay this way until year's end.

At first glance, there appear to be neither winners nor losers. Yamani was unable to achieve a freezing of prices until the end of 1982 or to reduce the extremely high prices of other producers; nor were his opponents able to persuade him to up his prices or cut back on output.

But at second glance it becomes obvious that Yamani has an edge over the others. If the others cut back on production, which they must do of necessity because some of them (like Nigeria and Libya) are already unable to sell their whole output, Saudi Arabia's share of 45 Opec's crude production will rise to 45 per cent and so will its influence on the price policy.

And should Yamani open the oil tap still further he would control about 50 per cent of Opec's production.

Every bbl of oil produced outside Opec (in Mexico, the North Sea, Alaska and Malaysia) exerts additional pressure on prices. In a nutshell: the market is stronger than the cartel. But does this spell the end of Opec?

It is hard to imagine that the economically astute Yamani wants to be faced with the alternative of wrecking either Opec or the world economy.

As a result, he declined any comment on the outcome of the Geneva meeting and its unsatisfactory results — if for no other reason, to prevent the debate from being exacerbated still further.

Those countries that would have liked to offset inflation by reducing the supply of oil and hence increasing its price now pin their hopes on an economic recovery of the West and thus rising demand for oil.

Ironically, it is the very countries whose price policy caused enormous

harm to Western economies that now depend on their recovery.

It is very difficult to estimate the effects of the reduced demand for oil on the development of alternative energy sources, genuine energy savings and the economy as a whole.

An economic recovery could at least partly correct the imbalance between supply and demand now deployed by Opec.

Despite Opec's present impotence, there is no reason whatsoever to be smug, although it is difficult not to show satisfaction over the fact that the much-maligned market forces have gained the upper hand over the powerful cartel.

But the present weakness of Opec must not delude the West into believing that it can return to business as usual after having for 10 years watched every Opec move with trepidation.

Opec is weakened but not broken. Above all, its system of getting its customers over a barrel by offering them long term contracts at fixed prices and then refusing to renew the deal should the customer fail to meet his buying obligation in full still works.

But the failure of the Geneva conference is likely to have made the Opec members more willing to talk to the West instead of blackmailing it.

If cooperation were now to take the place of confrontation the conference would have been successful after all — for both sides.

Wolfgang Müller-Haeseler
(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 29 May 1981)

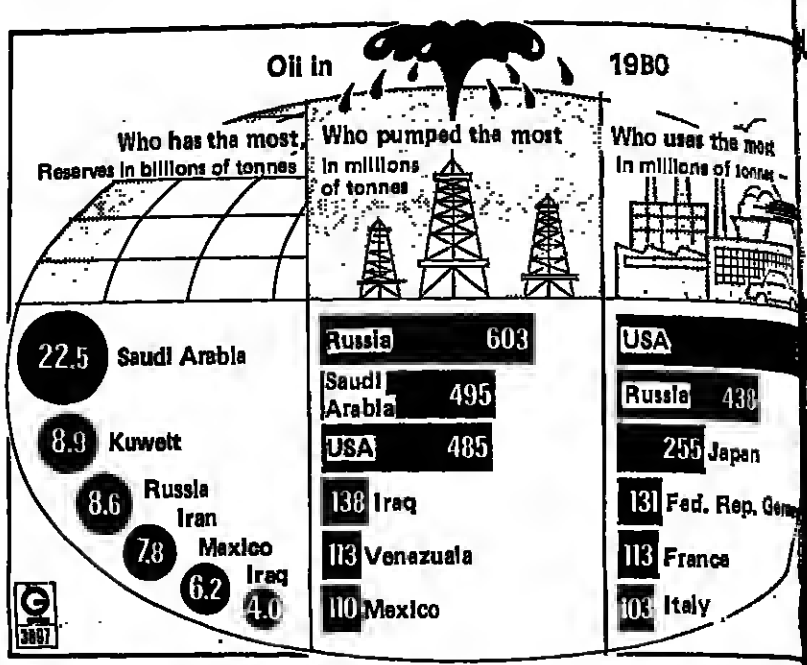
Oil producers face reality of world-wide glut

There will be no oil price increase until the end of the year. This is the most important result of the latest Opec conference in Geneva.

By freezing the price of crude at its present level until the next Opec round in Abu Dhabi in December, the oil-producing states drew their conclusions from the present world-wide oil glut. Reason has thus prevailed.

Granted, the hawks in the cartel say that they were victorious over the moderates because they thwarted their plans to freeze oil prices until the end of 1982. Moreover, they say Saudi Arabia's oil minister, Yamani, has been unable to prevent a cutback in the production of crude.

But this is only an apparent victory. Yamani will continue to open his oil tap wide enough to swamp the world markets, thus showing his fellow Opec mem-



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Wolfgang Müller-Haeseler
(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 29 May 1981)

Diversify, say Bonn report

Changes in supply and demand patterns of energy have led to a dependence on oil.

The Bonn Ministry for Research and Technology says in a study that changes could considerably reduce many's dependence on oil by the year 2000.

Greater use of gas, electricity and nuclear power are suggested as ways to reduce the share of oil in total energy consumption.

The study envisages piped energy rising from 36 per cent of total energy use to 60 per cent.

Of this, 30 per cent would be produced by day 19 per cent, 23 per cent by (15 per cent) and 7 per cent by (1 per cent).

Distillation heating is likely to be particularly important because it involves a generation of heat as a by-product of electricity generation.

To achieve these aims it would be necessary to build 400 to 750 new power plants and therefore more eco-

Such plants could provide 20 per cent of the electricity needed by the year 2000. Today, they account for 10 per cent.

Adding the industrial energy consumption, some 6 per cent of total energy could be saved.

The total primary energy consumption would rise (against 1980) from 390 million tons of anthracite units to 480 million tons.

Assuming an average annual growth of 2.7 per cent, that would mean 120 million tons of anthracite units than previously assumed.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 1 June 1981)

Offergeld Third World plea

The development process in the Third World must not be allowed to grind to a halt.

Importing Third World goods must not be allowed to grind to a halt.

The consequences of stagnation in the Third World would be disastrous for many Third World countries.

The economic, financial and political crises in many Third World countries would become even more dangerous.

Continued on page 2

BASF sales down, but outlook is up

The value of BASF, the Ludwigshafen-based chemicals giant, has sharply risen over the past year.

It is now being traded about 10 per cent above its price compared with about DM20 a share a year ago.

The 1980 global sales figure, at under DM30bn, was the best in BASF's history.

But despite that, dividend per share was reduced from DM8 to DM7.

In this year, sales are running at a neck with Bayer's and Hoechst's.

There might be a change in management when the Emir of Qatar visits Germany soon.

Chairman Matthias Seefelder, who has been in charge since 1978, is expected to be replaced by his son-in-law, Dr. Hans-Joachim Lauth.

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The emphasis is on securing energy and raw materials supplies.

Oil and gas exploration off the German coast (together with Texaco) has been stepped up; existing production facilities in the region are being developed.

The coal mine Auguste Victoria is to be improved.

The growing video market is another reason for the increased investment.

The world market for video cassettes is expected to double this year to DM3bn.

BASF considers itself sufficiently well equipped in this field to tackle its Japanese competitors in Japan itself.

It will increase investment there, as Hoechst and the Boehringer group have done.

Its sales in Japan are now behind those of Hoechst, but Seefelder hopes to invest DM170m there by 1985.

The chemicals market in Japan is worth DM130bn a year.

BASF sales this year are expected to rise 7 per cent against 1980, despite problems in the USA.

But the growth in terms of quantity is unlikely to exceed 2 per cent, the rest being accounted for by inflation. Still, 2 per cent should be enough to provide job security and reasonable dividends.

Sales by Seefelder's Anilin Group in the first quarter of 1981 rose by a whopping 11 per cent against the same period last year, and the trend seems to be continuing.

Burkhard Salchow
(Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und Welt, 22 May 1981)

Daimler-Benz keep rising as others keep dropping

ner Co. after previous equity negotiations with White Motors had failed.

Daimler-Benz is now in an excellent position on the world's biggest market for commercial vehicles.

Moreover, the envisaged general concept in this sector has been rounded off by the new acquisition. This has also made for further flexibility and improvements in the production sector, enabling Daimler-Benz to react swiftly to changes in market conditions.

Mercedes does not fear the Japanese, despite the fact that Japan managed to increase exports by 27 per cent in the past year.

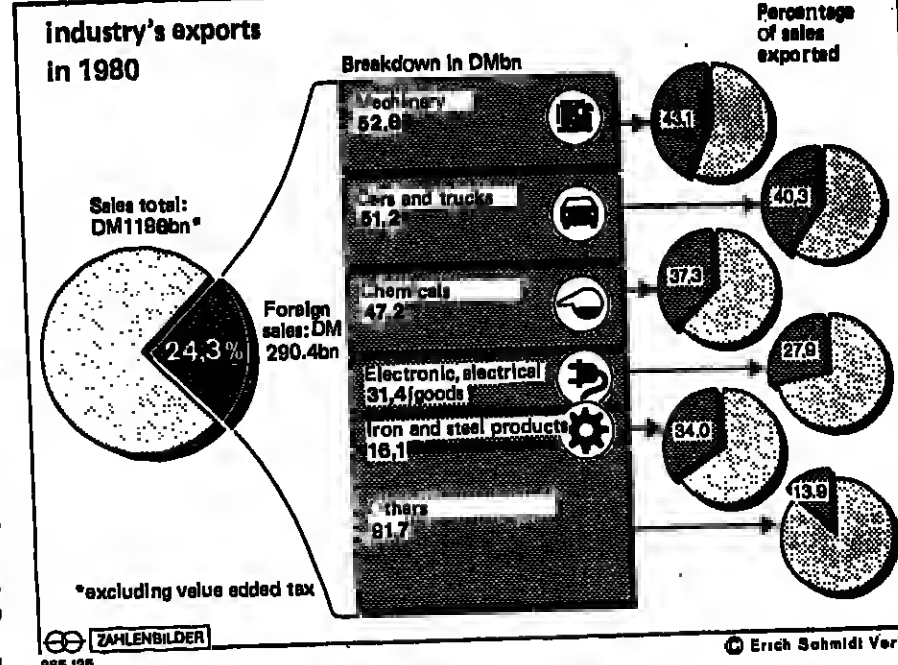
As Dr Prinz points out, the Japanese industry receives government support until it can stand its ground on world markets. And there is no need to stress that this runs counter to our own ideas of a fair world trade.

Dr Prinz deplores the fact that "world trade no longer takes part between individual companies but between countries."

He also considers it unfair that the Japanese government has issued restrictions for automobile exports to the United States but refuses to do so for the EEC.

"People like us who have always upheld the principle of free trade should be able to expect some concession," he says.

Günter Ringeb
(Handelsblatt, 22 May 1981)



Plant shutdown highlights foreign subsidy problem

Even a giant like Bayer AG, Leverkusen, has not been spared the experience of having to shut down a sophisticated plant because it can no longer compete with foreign government-subsidised competition.

It has been forced to scrap some products of its wide men-made fibre range and shut down the plants making them. Some 700 workers lost their jobs.

According to Chairman Herbert Grunewald, the reason lies in state intervention in market mechanisms in other European countries where unprofitable plants are officially kept going by the state.

Excess production capacities are thus created, and they obviously affect profits. Bayer's shut-down is a prime example

of the fact that other countries support their problem branches of industry and thus export their own unemployment.

As deplorable as the whole thing is for social reasons, it obviously leaves a colossus like Bayer unfazed.

The group's global sales last year rose by 10.9 per cent to DM28.8bn, though the growth was rather unevenly distributed. Bayer AG increased its sales by 5.5 per cent to DM11.5bn (in terms of quantity, sales in fact dropped by 5 per cent as a result of high raw materials, energy, transport and labour costs). On the other hand, exports rose by 7 and sales by foreign subsidiaries by as much as 17 per cent.

Foreign business accounted for almost 75 per cent of total sales (a growth rate of 14 per cent) while domestic sales rose by only 3 per cent.

But global sales in terms of volume have probably only risen by about 2 per cent, says Grunewald.

Incidentally, close to two-thirds of global sales went to European countries and half of this to EEC nations.

Pharmaceuticals and insecticides were particularly successful. This is also where Bayer research is concentrated, boosted by last year's DM1.2bn investment.

Pharmaceuticals increased their share in world sales from 9 to 15 per cent over the past ten years and insecticides from 10 to 12 per cent.

After-tax profits (globally) rose from DM435m to DM730m. But the parent company's profits dropped from DM378m to DM348m. Shareholders can expect a dividend of DM7.

Business in the first quarter of 1981 was brisker than expected, says Grunewald. Compared with the first quarter of last year, sales were up 4.4 per cent — primarily due to price increases.

In fact, sales in terms of quantity diminished slightly.

Here again, exports played a dominant role, rising from 62.2 per cent last year to 64.4 per cent.

Global sales of the group were up 11.3 per cent — again primarily due to foreign business. Factories operate at 80 per cent of capacity.

Bayer's investments are heavy. This year's global investment is expected to reach DM2.5bn (for plant and equipment), slightly less than last year (2.6bn). About two-thirds of this money is invested domestically.

Heinrich Rieker
(Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und Welt, 15 May 1981)

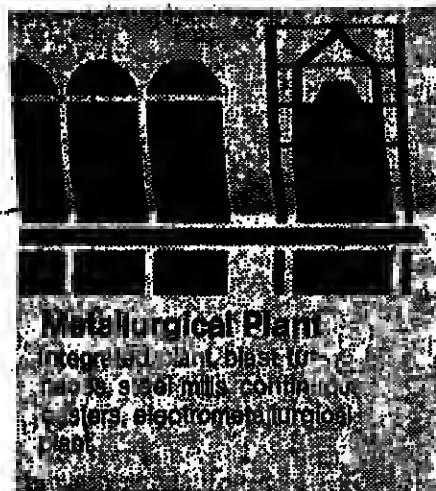
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**MANNESMANN
DEMAG**

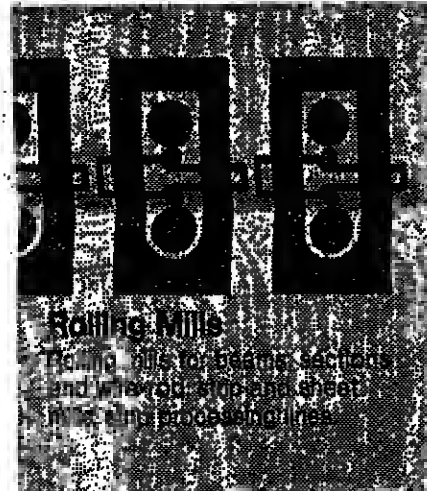
Machinery, Plants and Systems

Mannesmann Demag your partner with experience in all matters of mechanical engineering and plant construction. With a broad financial base, world-wide sales network and a future-oriented research and development program for new products.

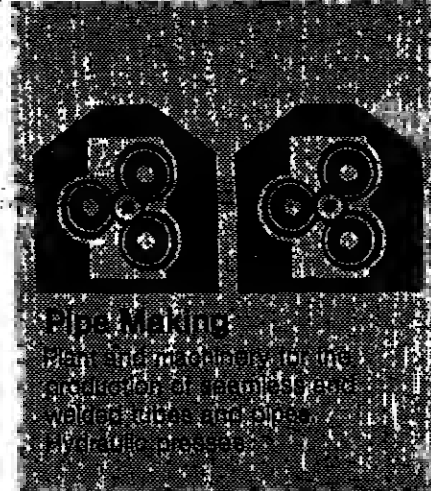
Mannesmann Demag
Postfach 10 01 41, D-4100
Fed. Rep. of Germany



Metallurgical Plant
Integrated plant design for
steel mills, continuous
casters, electric arc furnaces,
etc.



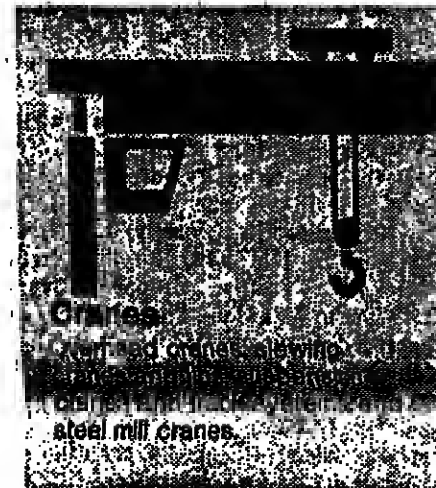
Rolling Mills
Rolling mills for beams, sections,
and wheels, with hot and cold
chamfers and cross-rolling.



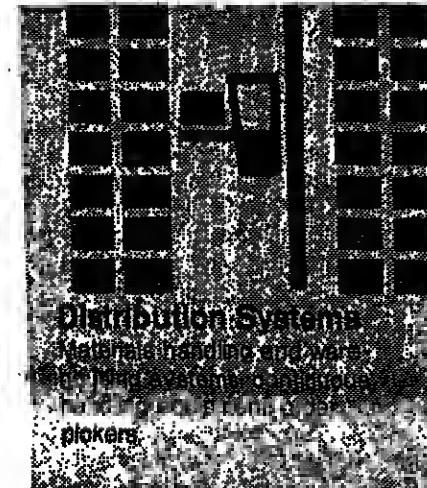
Pipe Making
Plant and machinery for the
production of seamless pipes,
welded pipes and pipes
with double flanges.



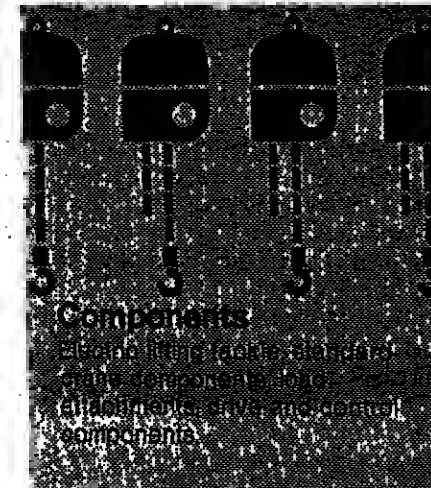
Compressors
Compressor compressors for
air, gas, steam, etc., with
reciprocating and rotary
pumps.



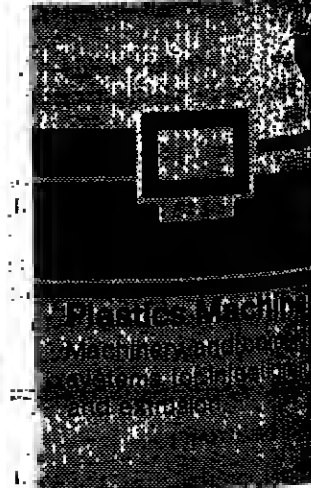
Cranes
Overhead cranes, trolley
cranes, portal cranes, etc.,
for steel mills, etc.



Distribution Systems
Material handling systems,
conveyors, etc., for
mining, etc.



Components
Plant and machinery for the
production of components for
aircraft, etc.



Machine Tools
Machine tools for the
production of components,
etc.



Bulk Handling
Belt conveyors, etc., for
mining, etc.



Mining Equipment
Mining and processing machines,
etc., for coal, etc.



Construction Equipment
Excavators, etc., for
construction, etc.

CONSUMER PROTECTION

Enforcement of technical standards has roots in industrial revolution

a national headquarters. This organization was disbanded after the war.

Today, eleven TÜV of very different sizes are responsible for a variety of areas — as is indicated by the number of TÜV employees, which ranges from 122 in the Hesse district to 3019 in the Rhineland.

Last year, for example, the organizations were responsible for the technical standards of pressurized containers, 26,000 boilers and 270,000 lifts.

They checked about 2.5 million pressure gas containers, about 150,000 petrol stations, 50,000 cranes and 5,000 cable railways and conveyor belt systems. The motor vehicle section tested 9.7 million cars and carried out 2.3 million driving tests.

"Our tasks have extended and intensified as a result of the economic boom and technological progress. More recent areas of TÜV involvement include our testing in the field of nuclear technology and protection of the environment, plus tasks connected with the law on work safety and working materials," Hoffmann says.

Hoffmann rejects the accusation that TÜV has actively sought to expand its areas of activity. "We have never chased after new areas of responsibility. But on the other hand we have never said no when our advice was sought, whether in connection with machine safety or safety at the workplace. The Bonn Minister of Labour twisted our arm."

Today, 93 per cent of TÜV activity with a total annual turnover of DM1.2bn covers areas where its work is literally law.

These areas where there is a clear general interest in safety can be roughly divided into two sections.

The first is where the organization relieves the state of its responsibility to supervise — according to paragraph 24 of the trade regulations and the road traffic regulations. Here the TÜV has the sole right of recognition.

The second is that in which TÜV activity is based on a law but where the TÜV experts do not have sole jurisdiction. Into this category come activities related to the Atomic Power Act, the National Anti-Pollution Act, the Technical Means of Work Act, accident prevention regulations, construction regula-

tions and other Land regulations, explains Hoffmann.

The organizations are non-profit-making. The TÜV receive no subsidies or financial assistance from the national or the land governments. They cover their costs from members' dues and from fees which they receive from organizations for whom they carry out tests.

From this income they have to pay personnel and other costs. As service providers, the associations are particular-

ly labour intensive. Labour costs account for 70 per cent of their total financial volume.

Hoffmann says that the complexity and multiplicity of the TÜV's tasks presupposes a high degree of efficiency both in terms of personnel and of equipment. Interdisciplinary consultation and cooperation between experts in various fields was essential for the execution of complex tasks and for the development of measuring and testing equipment.

Hoffmann concludes: "No one who is seriously interested in safety can possibly try to prevent the further development of the Technical Standards Associations by referring to their historically limited functions."

Lutz E. Dreesbach
(Hanseblatt, 27 May 1981)

Five major airports given black marks by pilots

Five of West Germany's 11 major airports have been given black marks by the International Air Pilots' Association.

Hamburg, Saarbrücken and Stuttgart airports are "highly unsatisfactory", Bremen and Frankfurt "unsatisfactory".

No complaints were made about Düsseldorf, Hannover, Munich and Nuremberg.

Cologne-Bonn and Berlin were praised as "exemplary".

Pilots have been publishing their findings for five years.

They award orange stars to airports where one or more security installation is missing.

Red stars are awarded to airports where safety is "seriously endangered" and black stars where lack of safety forces pilots to restrict operations, for example by not making night flights.

So far no black stars have been awarded to German airports.

The West German Pilots' Association, Cockpit, does the assessment. To give their findings greater weight, they present them to the International Federation of Airline Pilots Associations, who check, analyse and publish.

The findings are then sent to pilots as orientation aids.

The association, which has 55,000 members throughout the world, found the following inadequacies at German airports:

• At Bremen the instrument landing system on one runway is planned, but has not yet been installed.

• At Frankfurt, which last year got a red star and which handles five times more traffic than Bremen, there are no central lines or landing zone lights on one runway. One light signal has poor range and poor visibility.

• At Hamburg there is an instrument landing system missing, gliding angle lights for two runways are not working and trees impede visibility in the landing sector.

• At Stuttgart gliding angle lights are unreliable on the difficult, hilly terrain; an instrument landing system and one set of landing lights are also missing. Are German airports unsafe at a time of increasing air traffic? Is the criticism that the planners of new take-off and landing runways were so engrossed in their huge plans that they forgot to remove present inadequacies?

Hans Achtmich of the German Airports Association in Stuttgart says: "I would like to stress that German airports are safe in terms of national and international regulations. They also try to meet pilots' wishes."

"If these wishes are not met, this does not say anything about the objective safety of these airports. For example many car drivers would like motorways to be lit up at night. But no one would go as far as to say that they are unsafe because this is not the case."

Achtmich explains that the Cockpit demands relate only to aviation improvements in regular air traffic. In all the cases mentioned, however, the airport authorities had applied to make the necessary improvements and in some cases permission had been granted.

"It must be said in this context that Germany had the most environmentally conscious airport laws in the world — with the result that a large number of objections and court cases have prevented the extension of airports. The years of delay over the extension of the runways at Stuttgart airport is an exemplary example of this."

The awarding of these minus marks to airports underlines in Achtmich's view the importance of improving airport facilities. However the list of complaints does not contain any serious threats to safety.

"If there were any danger to safety at German airports the authorities would step in and close the airports. And of course pilots too would ensure passenger safety by refusing to land at airports where safety was at risk."

Walter H. Riebel
(Die Welt, 30 May 1981)

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■ THE CINEMA

Dropping out in the cold
of Desperado City

Vadim Glowna's debut as a director, *Desperado City*, is a film about drop-outs and rejection of cold, inhospitable cities. However, unlike other directors of films of this kind, Glowna offers none of the little hopes or imaginary consolations so often to be found in such films.

Only once in the film do Liane and Skoda stand above things, as they look over the river Elbe on the left and the Hamburg docks on the right. Here, on top of their world, it seems they have become subjects rather than objects, active rather than passive for once.

The sea is somewhere in the distance, but seafarers' romanticism is not for Glowna. Glowna's strength is his freshness. According to the comfortable logic of the television film, everything is wrong in this film but in the logic of the cinema all is well with it.

Glowna does not fear the clichés which are true because they have taken possession of our longings.

In this film he has tackled a subject from which many other directors would have made several films.

The result is a pacy narrative style, full of movement, in the Hollywood tradition.

This is a film about escape — mainly about imaginary escape. Skoda says: "I can see it all before me... from New York to Washington DC, through Virginia and then on Interstate Highway 40 to Nashville, Tennessee, then on to Memphis."

"Why do you want to go to the States?" asks Liane.

This year's Oberhausen Short Film Festival underlined that this genre has lost much of its political bite and explosiveness.

In its heyday, many of the entries for this festival were overtly and unashamedly political. The East Bloc were strongly represented long before the official *ostpolitik* got under way. The Vietnam war and the student uprisings of May 1968 were central themes.

Yugoslavian film purchasers even went back home in those days and reported that the agitprop film dominated the Oberhausen festival.

This has all changed. The festival has become virtually apolitical and in doing so has lost much of its appeal. And the short film genre as a whole is going through a period of stagnation.

It has long been the poor relation of the film industry, leading a shadow existence and rarely to be seen at cinemas in this country.

The festival organisers can hardly be blamed for this crisis. Indeed all they can do is to document it.

The Oberhausen Festival is more like a working conference than a film festival — and this is its distinguishing feature.

Its task is not only to present masterpieces but to report on trends in the short film scene throughout the world.

Even worthwhile or exemplary failures could be shown. But poor technique, unimaginative, routine work and conventional mediocrity ought to have no place.

The festival structure tends, however, to discourage this. Films are classified in groups and entries are sometimes ac-

"What's the point of staying here?" he replies laconically.

He sees America not as the land of unlimited possibilities but of unlimited distance. This film makes us feel very vividly how small West Germany is. The film is set in Hamburg and the people moving through it seem literally imprisoned in a city landscape which knows no beyond. And so it is no surprise that the attempt to escape ends where it was meant to begin.

There is no vehicle for dreams. The car is not a symbol of mobility but a cage, an illusion.

Two taxi drivers chase Skoda, drive him into a cul-de-sac. Their limousines are images of a technology that oppresses, that does not liberate. There is no running away, no driving away in this film. There are no interstate highways, only local roads.

The film derives its dynamism from the fact that hardly any of the characters persists in the lethargy of everyday life. Skoda has left home. Now he is driving the taxi of Frau Buchholz, a widow with whom he is living.

Liane packs up her hairdressing apprenticeship, meets Skoda. An almost wordless love begins and almost ends when the widow catches them. The people in this film are not titanic rebels.

Their dreams are always conflicting with their tendency to compromise. Skoda breaks off his relationship with the widow. She jumps out of the window.

Then there is Hilka, a striptease dancer on the Reeperbahn. She wants to get



Skoda (left) and Liane: on top of their world in 'Desperado City'.

out of the scene, but the scene will not let her go.

She ends up murdered — the second fatality in the film. Skoda robs the bank where his father works, is wounded, escapes in a car and makes it to Liane's flat, where he, too, dies — in her arms. The characters are knocked around like billiard balls. Glowna attaches little importance to external probability. He is only concerned with inner truth.

In the age of the television an old concept of reality has become obsolete. Clichés cloak themselves in a high degree of realism. Pseudo-events disguise themselves as reality itself. The medium does not want to know about the imaginative element in art.

The strength of the cinema, however, lies in its ability to negate this flat concept of reality. This is what Glowna tries to do. His characters are independent beings, closely though he observes them.

They are fictional figures whose construction follows its own laws.

Hamburg, too, is alienated and becomes exemplary. It is a city and a legend at the same time. Nothing without sky and without sea, representation of the real city but counterpart to the feelings of the people who live there — fear, loneliness, sadness.

Desperado City is a sad but not a weeping film. It does not chatter about sadness, it presents it.

Finally, it is two films. That by Vadim Glowna and that which the people see it produce for themselves. This cinema of overstatement says more things about everyday feelings than many a German film which is technically perfect yet still misses the point.

Michael Schwarz

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 30.6.81)

Short film on the wane,
festival shows

cepted because they fit into a certain category rather than for their intrinsic merits.

The festival consisted of eight showings, some lasting more than two and a half hours. This suggests richness and variety, but this impression is false.

In too many of the documentaries the influence of poor TV journalism was detectable. The result was a kind of radio film or "talking heads" film, which might just as well have been on the radio, as the pictures themselves added nothing.

We could also have done without many of the cartoon entries, which merely repeated tired old jokes.

Weakest of all was the experimental film section. Some of the entries could have been 20 years old, yesterday's avant garde, repeating or ignorantly reproducing what has long since been familiar.

This general unawareness of film history was shared by the audience, who applauded gratefully at the same familiar stuff was served up.

The festival organisers showed their awareness of the problem by presenting a series of programmes on film history. The six-part retrospective on the famous Prague Film and Television Faculty (Famu) and the two showings of the work of Oskar Fischinger, an experimen-

tal film pioneer, deserved a far larger audience than they got.

The best attended event here was a seminar on the documentary film presented by film critic Wilhelm Roth.

Those attending were impressed by the technical quality, visual power and boldness of these classical works — qualities which documentary film makers in the television age seem to have lost.

The week-long festival did nonetheless present some noteworthy films. The highlight was the evening of short films from Poland, journalistic reports which showed the conflicts and negotiations between the unions and the government so to speak from within — and far more convincingly and precisely than any TV reports to date.

Other impressive Polish entries were: *The Carpenter* (1976) by Wojciech Wisniewski, a representative life story told with Schwajk-like aliveness; *Woman Workers*, by Irena Ksmienaka, a very honest, realistic study; and above all the prize-winning *Tango* by Zbigniew Rybczynski, an innovative, technically brilliant experimental film on the absurdity and modern life's inability to communicate.

The entries from the Soviet Union, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia were among the best at the festival. I would like to single out the Soviet entry, *Babelers*, by

Michael Nikitin, a masterly short film describing the vain efforts of collective farmers to find a wife.

Iran presented an excellent documentary on child labour in a brick works entitled *Bread From Earth*, by Farideh Delfa and a cartoon, *Liberty American Style*, by K. Telghani — a cracking play of optical pyrotechnics.

One of the outstanding entries from Central America was a half-hour American entry, *El Salvador: The Seeds of Liberty*, by Glenn Silber and Tele Video cellos, a fine example of professional and committed film journalism.

This documentary gives both sides a chance to present their cases and leaves its judgment of the ruling junta on testimony from North American priests and nuns working in the country.

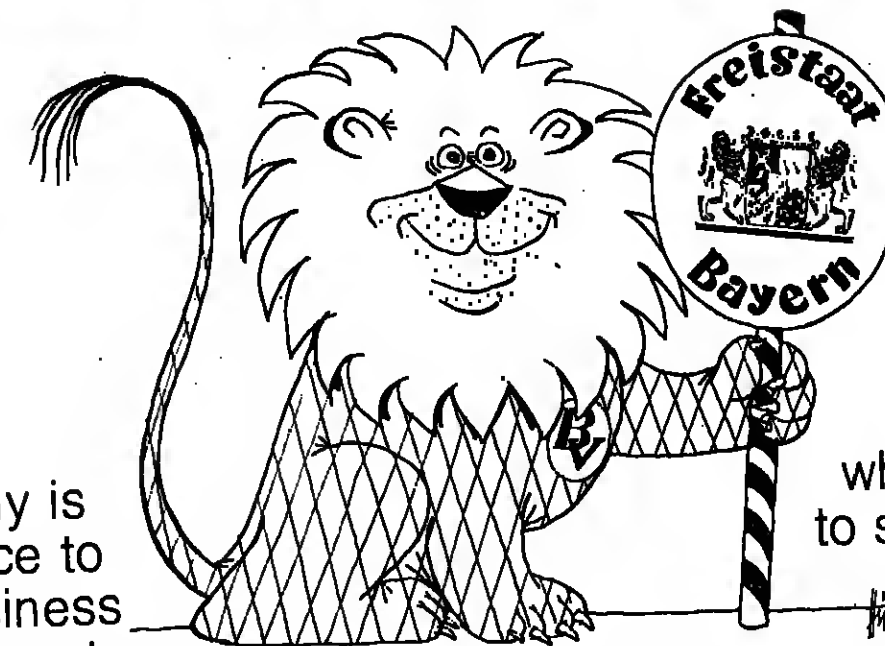
Change, by Christoph Janetzko, is the most interesting experimental film and by far the best West German entry. Using a minimum of material, Janetzko succeeds in achieving richness of varied images of high pictorial quality.

On the fringe of the festival and private showings a large number of documentaries were shown which would have liked to see as part of the festival proper. It is worth considering allowing such films to be shown as part of the main competition in future.

Perhaps the festival should also open its doors to the video and Super 8 genres, which are both fighting for recognition now. There is a good deal of fine work being done in these two media.

Gerhard Schoen

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 2.7.81)

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■ MEDICINE

Dancing away all those cares and woes

Bonn University Neurological Clinic has for the past three months or so been experimenting with dance as a therapy for psychological disorders.

Primitive peoples have always expressed their emotions, needs and worries through dance. The civilised man of the industrial West, on the other hand, no longer knows how to express himself through this type of body language.

What matters for him is to preserve a stony-faced dignity at all costs. Emotions are turned inward instead of being expressed.

Frau Irmin Schaefer-Groebel who made the suggestion to the university, has a different approach. She makes her patients leap, kick, hop and clap their hands rhythmically or wildly gyrate if this is how they feel.

The emphasis is on African dances which are to help her patients shed the rigid crust of suppressed emotions and dance out their aggressions.

Psychiatrists have for some time known that dance has a therapeutic effect even with perfectly normal people who live under the day-to-day stress of an industrial environment.

This applies particularly to jazz, which requires a maximum of free, creative improvisation.

Moreover, African dancing techniques (on which jazz is based to some extent) call for the movement of a wide range of isolated muscle groups.

This intensive concentration on the body makes the dancer come out of his shell. It makes him switch off, so to speak, while the movement takes over of its own accord and without obeying signals from the intellect.

But while music and dancing therapy for a wide range of patients has been in common use in the past 20 years and is even a subject taught at certain universities, dancing therapy is still in its infancy in the Federal Republic of Germany.

The Bonn neurologists were the first to have embarked on this type of therapy in our part of the world.

Reinhold Schüttler, professor of social psychiatry in Bonn, says: "There's nothing unusual about such a therapy. If I had more time I'd do a bit of jazz dancing myself."

Given such an attitude, it is not surprising that Professor Schüttler was open-minded and receptive when the dance therapy was first suggested.

Ernest Wilson, a medical doctor from Ghana, has the overall supervision over the weekly excursion of the patients into the non-verbal world of movement.

Naturally, dancing alone won't cure depression and other psychiatric problems, say the Bonn doctors.

And since effectiveness controls are extremely difficult no attempt has been made so far to establish the exact anti-depressive effects of this type of therapy.

The idea was to give the green light and wait and see. In any event, all patients are enthusiastic, notwithstanding the fact that the national health system refuses to foot the bill.

Psychologist Hildegard Böhme last year compiled some statistics on the therapeutic effects of jazz dancing.

She presented 124 participants in jazz dancing courses with a questionnaire.

The results were startling: depressions diminished with all participants regardless of age and sex. The average depression scale which stood at 3.90 before the dancing course dropped to 2.12 at the end.

One of the Bonn patients is the 34-year-old wife of a physicist. She told the round that ever since they built a house a little while ago she had felt exhausted, unable to concentrate and deeply depressed.

In fact, her general feeling deteriorated from day to day and eventually she had to be hospitalised.

Seeing her in the midst of this group it is hard to believe that she is a fully trained physical education teacher. Right now, she is unable to perform even the simplest of relaxation exercises; her body is as stiff as a board.

This is a phenomenon common to most of the patients. They find it extremely difficult to convert emotions into movement.

When asked to stretch out their hands in a defensive gesture, they only bend their fingers slightly as if pleading with the imagined attacker.

According to Professor Schüttler, many psychoses cause such inability in patients to express themselves through gestures; and the drugs used in treating the disorders inhibit movement still further. It is here that jazz dancing comes into its own — as an antidote to the drugs.

Once the drums begin their rhythmic pounding there is no holding the patients — and even a former nurse, who has been apathetic ever since a brain surgery, comes out of her lethargy. Her hips start swaying as if remembering a tune she had heard as a child.

Sylvia Bergmann
(Die Zeit, 23 May 1981)

Doctors uncover clues about cot deaths

Doctors think they may be on the point of solving the mystery of cot deaths which account for 2,000 babies a year in the Federal Republic of Germany alone.

Cot deaths occur when the baby just stops breathing — a phenomenon without apparent explanation until now.

In close cooperation with the Ruhr University, Bochum, psychologists, anatomists, mathematicians and engineers have now dug to the roots of this hitherto inexplicable phenomenon.

It is thanks to their research work that a 3-month old baby in a Munich paediatric ward now stands a chance of survival.

Bochum Professor Marianne E. Schlaefke, who delved into the problem with animal experiments as far back as 1964, has come up with an explanation for the mysterious deaths: central brain sensors continuously check the acidity level of the liquid surrounding the nerve cells. The collected data determine the breathing cycle during the night.

In some babies these sensors are missing from birth, while in others they have been put out of commission by frequently minor infections.

As soon as the missing sensors should take over control of the breathing process, the sudden death of the infant occurs although he has been full of life and bounce during the day.

In close cooperation with technicians, doctors have now developed a device to enable threatened infants to learn proper breathing while asleep.

This can only be achieved once the



body has learned to react to pulses.

As a result, the newly developed device administers a small dose directly into the windpipe. The child alone does not make the patient take a breath.

Breathing is brought on by a draft of air blowing straight at the child without making it wake up.

This fools the infant organism into thinking that the breath it has taken was caused by the acid.

After the breathing training has proven successful, the device can be left out since the body will react to the acid impulse alone.

According to Professor Schlaefke, Munich experiment has been so successful that four other babies will be treated this way. In fact, there is a great hope that complete cures can be achieved.

Once the devices now being tested in Munich are mass produced the treatment can be done at home under medical supervision.

Up to now, children with this disorder have been treated with implanted diaphragm pacemakers that act as breathing through electrical impulses.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 27 May 1981)

Sexual disorders and heart attacks in women linked

A link between heart attacks in women and sexual disorders has been established, according to a delegate at the Lindau Congress of Psychotherapy.

Psychotherapist Marina Moeller-Gambaroff, of Giessen, described the type of sex which "does not give itself to the partner but insists on constant repetition of avowals of love".

This was only one of the symptoms of estrangement from the body and from "inner genitality".

Not only did this estrangement cause fear. It also made people sick — borne out by the fact that more and more women were felled by heart attacks.

Psychiatrist Claus Buddeberg told the congress that 30 per cent of couples coming to the Zurich Psychiatric Clinic for advice on sexual disorders need one to two hours worth of special tutoring.

They simply don't know how a man and woman who want to "sleep with each other" must go about it, he said.

Another 30 per cent, he said, have lost all rapport with their own bodies. They require even more patience — by and large about 20 hours of tutoring — before they can sense again what it feels like to stroke a partner's shoulder and before they can establish a new rapport with their bodies.

To achieve this, couples must practise

not only to have feelings and emotions but also to convey them.

The last third also complain about sexual disorders, but in their case the disorder points to psychological problems that go much deeper and that require proper psychotherapy.

Professor Buddeberg stressed the emotional vulnerability of the man, which is frequently overlooked.

Especially in men, sexual disorders are frequently due to a sensuality that has been blunted by day-to-day life. In other words, sensual perception no longer functions as it should, and this means that the man does not fully absorb his environment and that he in fact is even unable to "sense" his wife and children, their emotions and their messages.

One conspicuous aspect of the Lindau meeting was that less thought than before was devoted to what must be changed in the living conditions of Europeans — not only to reduce psychological disorders but also to prevent Europeans from becoming alienated from their last emotional haven, i.e. sexual relations.

How is a person to cope with life in a factory, an office, a school or a high-rise housing site without constantly wiping out sensations that confront him in a bid to preserve sanity?

Is sensuality still possible in a situation where everything is too large, too confused, too loud and overstimulated with visual sensations?

Moreover, there are hospital wards from which all traces of heat and warmth have been barred.

Frau Moeller-Gambaroff put it into perspective when she attacked judices that are still being perpetuated: many that former cultures know of individual love, that an "open" relationship without loyalty obligations is possible and that a relationship cannot be broken if sex is not intact and vice versa.

In many cases, she said, women speak of a lack of giving of themselves to the part of one partner. It only takes a second glance to see that this is more than indispensable psychological selfprotection needed to preserve ego structure.

Therefore, the first thing to be done in such cases is to strengthen the power of couple-relations.

Said Frau Moeller-Gambaroff: "I pin my hopes on the development of man whether a woman develops as an individual rather than as an aggregated copy of the man."

And it depends on the woman whether the man can find his way out of the maze of his need to impress and his disoriented performance obsession.

Only then will he be able to respond to new problems with new solutions instead of waiting for recipes.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 23 May 1981)



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(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 1 Juni 1981)